

A New Species of *Megaselia* Rondani (Diptera: Phoridae) from Norfolk

By R. H. L. DISNEY*

Among some scuttle flies collected by J. W. Ismay in Norfolk is a new species of *Megaselia* Rondani which is described below, and named after the collector.

Megaselia ismayi sp.n.

♂. Frons broader than high at eye-margin (1.4:1) and dark brown to black in colour and with scattered hairs. Lower supra-antennals slightly closer than upper pair (0.035 mm. apart as opposed to 0.40 mm.) and measuring 0.08 mm. in length; and are thus shorter than the upper SA's, which measure 0.12 mm. The upper SA's closer together than pre-ocellars, which are 0.07 mm. apart. Antials are 0.06 mm. from upper SA's but only 0.02 mm. from antero-laterals, which are situated higher on the frons about 0.01 mm. from the eye margin. Antennae with third segment a slightly pointed hemisphere, whose greatest diameter is 0.13 mm., and blackish in colour. Palps dusky yellow with four robust bristles, the longest measuring 0.09-0.10 mm. Labella lobes with pre-apical, dorso-lateral, brown patches.

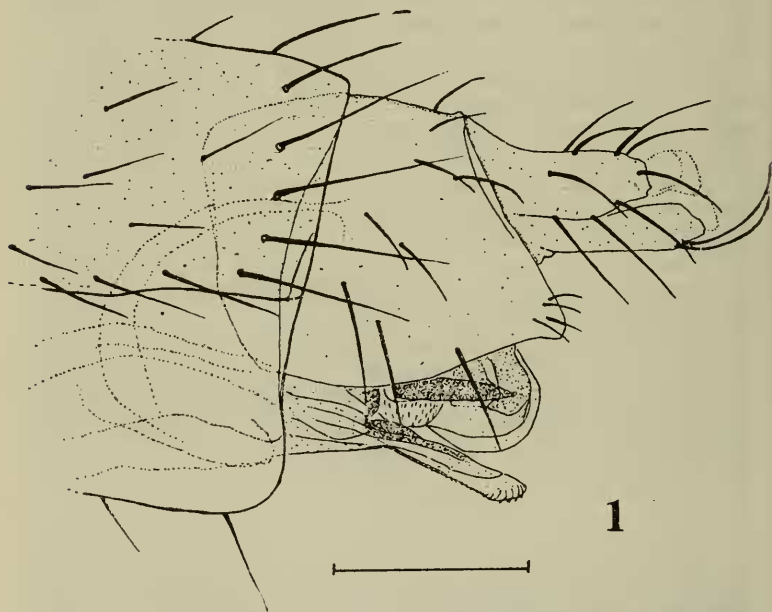


Fig. 1. *Megaselia ismayi* sp.n. male terminalia viewed from left side (Scale line=0.1 mm.).

Thorax brown laterally but black on top. Mesopleuron with four delicate hairs. Scutellum with a pair of long bristles and an anterior pair of small hairs. Haltere with stem and knob black.

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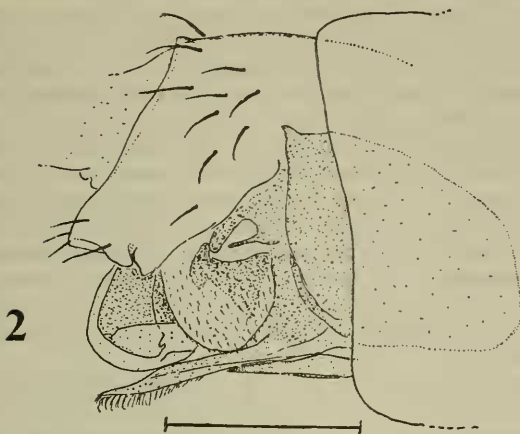


Fig. 2. *Megaselia ismayi* sp.n. male terminalia viewed from right side, with only base of anal tube indicated (Scale line=0.1 mm.).

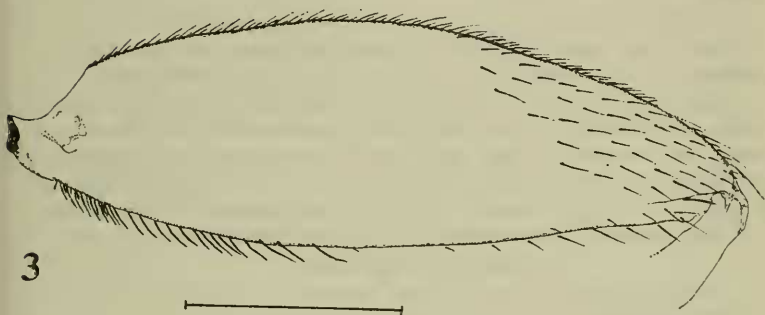


Fig. 3. *Megaselia ismayi* sp.n. posterior face of hind femur (Scale line=0.2 mm.).



Fig. 4. *Megaselia ismayi* sp.n. right wing (Scale line=0.4 mm.).

Abdomen with dark brown to black tergites with scattered short hairs, apart from longer ones on posterior margin of segment 6. Belly dark with scattered hairs. Terminalia (figs. 1 and 2) dark in colour with dusky ventral plate, which is paler beneath. Hairs of dorsal part weaker than hairs on hind margin of segment 6 (fig. 1). Anal tube brownish.

Legs brown in colour, only tibia and tarsi of front legs being a little paler. Front tarsi with slender metatarsus and other segments of same width; the metatarsus is about 2 x length of second segment which is a little longer than the third, the fourth and fifth are shorter still and subequal. Hind tibia with about a dozen weakly developed postero-dorsal setae. Hind femur (fig. 3) with short hairs in basal half of ventral face, these hairs being closely packed towards the base.

Wing (fig. 4). 1.62 mm. in length. Costal index 0.42. Costal ratios 3.81:1.6:1. Costal cilia 0.14 mm. long. A small hair at base of vein 3. Veins brown. Membrane appears a little greyish.

Holotype ♂. Norman's Barrow Wood (Grid Ref. 53/891 239), 29th April, 1976, J. W. Ismay. Deposited in collection of author.

This species runs to couplet 34 (page 640) in the keys of Schmitz and Delage (1974). *M. ismayi* differs from *M. ignobilis* Schmitz in the form of the hypopygium (figs. 406 and 407 in Schmitz and Delage), the longer costa, different costal ratios and several other features. If one ignores the dark legs and runs on to couplet 36, the longer costa and very different costal ratios will at once distinguish *M. ismayi* from *M. paupera* Lunbeck. *M. criniticauda* Colyer is immediately distinguished by its peculiar hypopygium (fig. 402 in Schmitz and Delage).

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to the Royal Society for a grant to aid my investigations of Phoridae.

Reference

Schmitz, H. and Delage, A. 1974. In Lindner, E. (Ed.). *Die Fliegen der palaearktischen Region* 33, Phoridae Lief 301: 638-664.

THE DOTTED CARPET (*ALCIS JUBATA* THUNBERG) IN NORTH EAST SCOTLAND. — I spent the period 13th to 20th August, 1977 at North Kessock, Ross and Cromarty (v.c. 106), on the north side of the Moray Firth, in a part of Scotland known as the Black Isle. Most of the moths which attended the static traps, although welcome to a southerner, were species one expected to see, but a welcome and somewhat surprising visitor was *Alcis jubata* Thunberg, of which five males were taken. — R. G. CHATELAIN, 65 East Drive, Orpington, Kent. [It appears that this is the furthest north occurrence of *jubata* in Britain and a new county record. The species is not listed for Aberdeenshire and Kincardineshire by Palmer (1974-76) and Palmer and Young (1977) or for Banffshire by Barbour (1976), but according to South (1961) it has been noted from Argyllshire. — EDITOR.]